



HASLEMERE TOWN COUNCIL

REVIEW OF HIRE CHARGES

BACKGROUND

The Finance & Governance committee has asked the Amenities Committee to review the hire charges for Lion Green, St Christopher's Green and the Chamber.

This was last done in 2021 and the committee agreed (post Covid 19) to retain them as they were.

The licence to the Lion's Den is outside the scope of this review and will be looked at towards the end of this year to commence 2025. However, for the sake of completeness the hire charges are include in the table below.

St Christopher's Green The Chamber of Commerce hired the Green and held quarterly Vintage and Craft fairs in 2021. To begin with they were successful, but post Covid 19 and shops opening normally meant there was a decrease in footfall which in turn reduced the number of independent traders wanting a pitch. The Fairs have not continued and no-one else has shown an interest in holding events there.

The Council Chamber A GDPR review of the Town Hall offices resulted in hirers no longer being given access to the kitchen facilities as confidential information was accessible in the main office. As a result, there has been a small drop off in private hire but there were no regular or substantial hires in any event.

Deposits All hirers pay a refundable damage deposit regardless of whether they are commercial events or not. Multi day commercial hirers of Lion Green pay £1,500 and commercial/non-commercial day hirers pay £150. Hirers of the Council Chamber pay £50.

Commencement Some, but not all, of the multi day commercial hirers have booked this year. Should the Committee decide to increase the charges, they could either come into effect from 2025 or with immediate effect where bookings have not yet been received.

Current charges

Location	Commercial	Non-commercial
Lion Green	£150 per day	No charge
St Christopher's Green	£75 per day	No charge
Council Chamber	£10 per hour	No charge
Lion's Den licence	£50 per month	n/a

RECOMMENDATION: The commercial daily charge for Lion Green be increased to £175. This represents a 16.67% increase. All other charges remain the same.